

BOARD OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION PROFESSIONAL FORESTERS REGISTRATION

P.O. Box 944246

SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2460

Website: www.bof.fire.ca.gov/licensing/licensing_main.html

(916) 653-8031



Professional Foresters Examining Committee

OPEN SESSION MEETING/TELECONFERENCE MINUTES

Held: February 23, 2012

Resources Building, 1416 9th Street
15th Floor Large Conference Room, No. 1506-12
Sacramento, California

Members Present: Doug Ferrier, Chairman
Ray Flynn
Kim Rodrigues
Bill Frost
Jerry Jensen (by phone)
Tom Osipowich (by phone)

Staff Participating: Eric Huff, Acting Executive Officer

Members of Public: Bill Solinsky, California Licensed Forester Association

1. Approval of Open Session Minutes of December 15, 2011 Meeting.

02-12-01 Member Flynn moved to approve the open session minutes and Member Frost seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Reports of Chairman and Executive Officer.

Chairman Ferrier reported on his participation on the licensing officer interview panel with Board Chairman, Stan Dixon and Board Executive Officer, George Gentry. Following the interviews, an applicant was offered the position. This applicant is in the process of reviewing the job offer and will respond to it by the end of the following week.

3. Status Report on Licensing Officer Vacancy.

Acting Executive Officer Huff reported that he is still occupying the licensing office and responding to licensing-related tasks.

Chairman Ferrier reported that the incoming licensing officer will be allowed to focus on the licensing program duties rather than Board-related tasks for at least the first six months of tenure.

Huff further reported that the assistant to the licensing officer will be continuing with the program.

4. Status Report and Discussion of Memorandums of Understanding with Federal Agencies for Compliance with Professional Foresters Law.

Acting Executive Officer Huff and Chairman Ferrier reported that no further progress has been made on this item since the December meeting. All agreed that this will be a good project for the incoming licensing officer. Huff expects that further progress will be made in advance of the June PFEC meeting.

5. New and Unfinished Business.

Chairman Ferrier presented a "Logger's World" column article about a federal court case in Texas that involves a doctor of psychology. This individual practiced outside of Texas before returned to her native state. She is running for public office in Texas and listed "psychologist" as her occupation on the ballot materials. However, she is not licensed to practice psychology in Texas and has been directed by the Texas psychology licensing board to cease from using the title of "psychologist." She has filed suit in federal court arguing that her first amendment rights were violated when she was directed to cease from using the title of "psychologist." The members noted the similarity of this case with a previous unlicensed practice complaint involving an unlicensed individual using a title that was similar to "forester."

Acting Executive Officer Huff anticipates that a public Board of Forestry and Fire Protection Member will likely soon be appointed to serve on the PFEC.

Huff also reported on a successful Certified Rangeland Manager applicant that has been licensed since the PFEC last met in December. This brings the total to 98 CRMs.

Huff reported that there had been no further development on the New Hampshire reciprocity request.

Mr. Bill Solinsky representing the California Licensed Foresters Association (CLFA) questioned how many Board Members get appointed to the PFEC. He further questioned the number of pending vacancies on the PFEC and the process for nominating new PFEC members.

Huff will be providing the annual report to the CLFA Board of Directors in concert with Mr. Solinsky.

02-12-02 Member Rodrigues moved to adjourn the open session and Member Osipowich seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.